



REPRESENTING ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 35

## Assemblymember Pedro Nava

JANUARY 2007

### Assemblymember Pedro Nava Introduces Legislation for Upcoming Session

**SACRAMENTO** – On December 4, the first day of the 2007 legislative session, Assemblymember Pedro Nava introduced three measures covering disaster relief, bicycle safety, and Carpinteria and Goleta Transportation Planning. **AB 62** provides relief for victims of the devastating wildfires that have struck California this year.

The Governor of California declared states of emergency for Ventura County as a result of the "Day Fire" in September and the "Esperanza Fire" in Riverside County in October. Nava's legislation will allow taxpayers to claim their disaster losses in a way that makes sense for them. Additionally, the measure will help payback disaster counties for property tax losses.

"My legislation is very important for those families who have suffered tragic losses," said



Assemblymember Nava. "I want to help local governments to cover their costs associated with the disasters. This legislation is one way that to do that."

Assemblymember Pedro Nava also recently introduced **AB 60**, to require a motor vehicle to have at least 3 feet of clearance to pass a bicyclist. **AB 60**, A Measure of Safety, was introduced in honor of UCSB triathlete Kendra Chiota Payne and Jake Boysel. Kendra lost her life when she was struck by a passing asphalt truck that came too close to her on Gibraltar Road in

Santa Barbara. Twelve year-old Jake Boysel was killed while riding his bike to school. Current law does not specify an exact distance; it only states that there should be a safe distance between a bicyclist and a motor vehicle passing on the left.

"The deaths of Kendra and Jake highlight the need for legislation requiring a specific, safe and defined passing distance between a motor vehicle and a bike rider."

In addition, Assemblymember Pedro Nava fulfilled a promise to the residents of Carpinteria and Goleta when he introduced **AB 61**. It will increase representation on the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (SBMTD) Board.

To express your support for Assemblymember Nava's legislation, please call (805) 564-1649.

### Assemblymember Pedro Nava and the California Highway Patrol Host Holiday Traffic Safety Press Conference in Goleta

**SANTA BARBARA** – Assemblymember Pedro Nava, the California Highway Patrol, local law enforcement agencies and firefighters hosted a Holiday Traffic Safety press conference on Wednesday, December 20, 2006, in Goleta. The press conference highlighted the importance of safe driving during the Holiday Season. A crashed vehicle was used as backdrop to underscore what can happen when tragedy strikes.

"As we celebrate the holidays with family and friends, I believe it is necessary to underscore the importance of safe driving practices so that we can prevent unnecessary tragedies in our community," said Nava. "I look forward to participating with the CHP and local law enforcement agencies in getting the message out regarding traffic safety."

The press conference focused on law enforcement's efforts during the holiday season to keep the roads safe. It also encouraged safe, responsible driving through practices, such as not driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, wearing a seatbelt, and obeying all traffic laws during this busy time of year.



Assemblymember Nava urges drivers to drive safe during the holiday season, with CHP Cpt. Jeff Sgobba (rear right).

## Fire Fighters Alliance Comes to the Aid of "Day Fire" Firefighters

**SANTA BARBARA**-During the recent "Day Fire" in Ventura County, the Santa Barbara Fire Fighters Alliance (SBFFA) bought and delivered tents and equipment to the firefighters, after learning that many of them were sleeping out in the open.

Betty Stephens, local philanthropist, co-founded the Santa Barbara Fire Fighters Alliance. The mission of the Alliance is to support the firefighters in the City and County of Santa Barbara by maximizing their efficiency and safety and providing for their welfare.



Photo courtesy of Betty Stephens

Betty Stephens and City Fire Fighter Moses Romo discuss a recently purchased Thermal Imaging Device used for rescuing people.

It is well-known that fire fighters do more than fight the residential, commercial, and dangerous brush fires that plague our area. In addition, they provide emergency medical services, hazardous waste abatement, and are often crucial in special rescue situations. For these services, we are grateful.

What is not well-known is that in many instances the budgets necessary to support the extended, yet necessary, services have not kept pace. Often, needed fire fighting equipment has not been replaced due to budget constraints. Since it's founding, the Alliance has raised approximately \$550,000 to help firefighters.

SBFFA works closely with the city and county fire chiefs to develop a list of equipment that SBFFA purchases and present them to fire fighters need to increase their safety and welfare while protecting our communities from fire, disaster, and other hazards. At the same time, SBFFA is hard at work developing fundraisers, such as the Fire Ball, and

educational events that raise the consciousness of the community regarding firefighters' needs and raise the funds necessary to purchase the wish list items.

To learn more about the SBFFA and the Fire Ball 2007 fundraiser, visit them on the web at: [www.sbfirefightersalliance.org](http://www.sbfirefightersalliance.org).

## Assemblymember Pedro Nava Announces Assembly Fellowship Program Applications

**SACRAMENTO**— Assemblymember Pedro Nava has announced the availability of applications for the 2007-2008 Assembly Fellowship Program. The 11-month fellowship program gives college graduates the opportunity of a lifetime to become full-time Assembly staff members working on fiscal and policy issues in an Assemblymember's Capitol or committee office. Fellows are also paid a monthly stipend of \$1,972 and receive health, dental, and vision benefits. The California State Assembly, in conjunction with the Center for California Studies at Sac State, administers the program.

"The Assembly Fellowship Program offers post-baccalaureate students and mid-career professionals the opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of the legislative

process," said Assemblymember Nava. "The program provides a challenging, professional work experience that serves as the foundation for successful careers in both the public and private sectors."

To be eligible, applicants must have earned their undergraduate degree by September 2007. No specific major is preferred, and recent fellows have had various majors (e.g., agricultural science, communications,

drama, ethnic studies, political science). Individuals with advanced degrees or mid-career professionals are encouraged to apply. Applications are available at Assemblymember Pedro Nava's Capitol office, or by calling the Ventura County district office at (805) 483-9808 or the Santa Barbara County district office at (805) 564-1649. You may also request an application online from the Center for California Studies at [www.csus.edu/calst/assembly](http://www.csus.edu/calst/assembly), by email at [calstudies@csus.edu](mailto:calstudies@csus.edu), or by phone at (916) 319-3753.

Final selection of the 18 Assembly Fellows is made in May 2007 after an initial screening of applications and a subsequent panel interview of semifinalists. The postmark deadline for submitting applications is **February 28, 2007**.



### District Offices:

•101 W. Anapamu, Ste A, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 •201 E. Fourth Street, Ste, 209-A, Oxnard, CA 93030  
Phone: (805) 564-1649 • Fax: (805) 564-1651 Phone: (805) 483-9808 • Fax (805) 483-8182

**Capitol Office:** P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0035 Phone: (916) 319-2035 Fax: (916) 319-2135